

REMARKS

This Amendment responds to the Office Action mailed July 13, 2005 in the above-identified application. Based on the foregoing amendments and the following comments, reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 4, and 8 have been amended solely for clarification and not to overcome the prior art of record. Accordingly, claims 1-20 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 8 and 18 being independent claims. No new matter has been added.

The Examiner has objected to the title of the application as not descriptive. The title has been amended. Applicant is not aware of any errors in the specification that require correction. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has objected to claim 4 because the limitation "second amplifier" is not specified in the parent claim. Claim 4 has been amended to positively recite a second amplifier. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-2, 4-5, 8, 11-12, 14-16 and 18-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Ghaffaripour et al. (US 5,648,742). Claims 3, 6-7, 9-10, 13, 17 and 20 are indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The rejection of claims 1-2, 4-5, 8, 11-12, 14-16 and 18-19 is respectfully traversed.

Amended claim 1 is directed to a power amplifier circuit comprising at least one first amplifier having a first input receiving an input voltage through at least one first coupling capacitor and connected to an output of the first amplifier, and having a second input, separate from the first input, receiving a reference voltage supplied to a time constant circuit comprising a decoupling

capacitor, at least one first controllable switch connecting the first and second inputs, wherein the first controllable switch connects the first and second inputs together when in an on state.

The Examiner asserts that switch 142 in FIG. 2 of Ghaffaripour corresponds to the first controllable switch recited in claim 1. However, FIG. 2 of Ghaffaripour clearly shows that switch 142 connects an input voltage VIN to either the plus input (+) or the minus input (-) of an operational amplifier 116. The plus and minus inputs of operational amplifier 116 are not connected together in either state of switch 142 of Ghaffaripour. Instead, the input voltage is connected to either one input or the other input of amplifier 116. By contrast, amended claim 1 recites that the first controllable switch connects the first and second inputs together when in an on state. This configuration is clearly illustrated by way of example in FIG. 3 of the present application. As shown in FIG. 3, controllable switch 20 connects the plus and minus inputs of amplifier 10 together when in an on state. The power amplifier circuit required by amended claim 1 is not disclosed or suggested by Ghaffairpour. Accordingly, amended claim 1 is clearly and patentably distinguished over the Ghaffairpour.

Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1 and are patentable over Ghaffaripour for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

Amended claim 8 is directed to a power amplifier circuit and requires, in part, a first amplifier having a first and second inputs and a controllable switch that connects the first and second inputs together when in an on state. Amended claim 8 is clearly and patentably distinguished over Ghaffaripour for at least the reasons discussed above in connection with claim 1.

Claims 9-17 depend from claim 8 and are patentable over Ghaffaripour for at least the reasons discussed above in connection with claims 1 and 8.

Claim 18 is directed to a method for operating a power amplifier comprising a first amplifier having first and second input and requires, in part, connecting the first and second inputs together in a standby mode.

Ghaffaripour contains no disclosure or suggestion of connecting the first and second inputs together in a standby mode, as required by claim 18. As discussed above, switch 142 of Ghaffaripour connects an input voltage VIN to either the plus input or the minus input of operational amplifier 116. Accordingly, claim 18 is clearly and patentably distinguished over Ghaffaripour.

Claims 19 and 20 depend from claim 18 and are patentable over Ghaffaripour for at least the reasons discussed above in connection with claims 1, 8 and 18.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the application is in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if this communication does not place the case in condition for allowance.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

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Respectfully submitted,

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